HLS 09RS-113 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2009

HOUSE BILL NO. 218

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARDY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS: Provides relative to the inspection and operation of fire safety and prevention equipment at public elementary and secondary schools

AN ACT

| 2  | To enact R.S. 17:81(Q) and 3996(B)(21), relative to fire safety and prevention equipment |
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| 3  | at public elementary and secondary schools; to require the governing authority of a      |
| 4  | public elementary or secondary school to adopt and implement policies relative to        |
| 5  | the inspection and operation of all fire safety and prevention equipment at a school,    |
| 6  | including but not limited to fire alarm and smoke detection devices; to provide policy   |
| 7  | guidelines; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.            |
| 8  | Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:                                           |
| 9  | Section 1. R.S. 17:81(Q) and 3996(B)(21) are hereby enacted to read as follows:          |
| 10 | §81. General powers of city, and parish, and other local public school boards            |
| 11 | * * *                                                                                    |
| 12 | Q.(1) In addition to any other provision of applicable law, rule, regulation,            |
| 13 | or code, each city, parish, and other local public school board shall adopt and          |
| 14 | implement policies providing for inspections by qualified persons of all fire safety     |
| 15 | and prevention equipment, including but not limited to fire alarm and smoke              |
| 16 | detection devices at each school under its jurisdiction at least twice during each       |
| 17 | school year and to require that all necessary actions be taken by appropriate persons    |
| 18 | in a timely manner to assure that all such equipment is in good working order and        |
| 19 | meets the need for which intended.                                                       |

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

| 1  | (2) For the purposes of this Subsection, the term city, parish, and other local          |
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| 2  | public school board shall mean the governing authority of any public elementary or       |
| 3  | secondary school.                                                                        |
| 4  | * * *                                                                                    |
| 5  | §3996. Charter schools; exemptions                                                       |
| 6  | * * *                                                                                    |
| 7  | B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and                |
| 8  | except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a           |
| 9  | charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this        |
| 10 | Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be        |
| 11 | exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are              |
| 12 | applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for      |
| 13 | the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:          |
| 14 | * * *                                                                                    |
| 15 | (21) Inspection and operation of fire safety and prevention equipment, R.S.              |
| 16 | 17:81(Q).                                                                                |
| 17 | * * *                                                                                    |
| 18 | Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2009; if vetoed by the governor    |
| 19 | and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1, |
| 20 | 2009, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.      |
|    |                                                                                          |

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB No. 218 Hardy

**Abstract:** Requires the governing authority of a public elementary or secondary school (including a charter school) to adopt and implement policies providing for inspections of all fire safety and prevention equipment at each school at least twice during each school year. Also requires the policies to provide that all necessary actions be taken to assure that the equipment is in good working order and meets the need for which intended.

Proposed law requires (in addition to any other provision of applicable law, rule, regulation, or code) that each local school board adopt and implement policies providing for inspections

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by qualified persons of all fire safety and prevention equipment, including but not limited to fire alarm and smoke detection devices at each school under its jurisdiction at least twice during each school year and to require that all necessary actions be taken by appropriate persons in a timely manner to assure that all such equipment is in good working order and meets the need for which intended.

Provides that <u>proposed law</u> is applicable to the governing authority of any public elementary or secondary school, including a charter school.

Effective July 1, 2009.

(Adds R.S. 17:81(Q) and 3996(B)(21))